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Article:

Gilchrist, F., Marshman, Z., Deery, C. et al. (1 more author) (2015) The impact of dental caries on children and young people: What they have to say? *International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry*, 25 (5). 327 - 338. ISSN 0960-7439

<https://doi.org/10.1111/ipd.12186>

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Table 1. Characteristics of participants in focus groups and interviews (n = 20).

dmft = Number of primary teeth decayed, missing or filled

DMFT = Number of permanent teeth decayed, missing or filled

Pseudonym	Gender	Age	Ethnicity	Part of study	dmft/DMFT	Presence of anterior caries	Pain experienced
Marie	Female	12 years, 11 months	White British	Focus group	8/3	No	Yes
Annie	Female	8 years, 5 months	White British	Focus group	6/1	No	Yes
Maria	Female	8 years, 6 months	White British	Focus group	4/0	No	Yes
Wayne	Male	9 years, 5 months	White British	Focus group	4/2	No	Yes
Steve	Male	12 years, 11 months	White British	Focus group	8/1	No	No
Justin	Male	7 years, 3 months	White British	Interview	6/0	No	Yes
Precious	Female	11 years, 3 months	White British	Interview	0/3	No	Yes
Didier	Male	8 years 7 months	White British	Interview	2/0	No	No
Bob	Male	11 years, 3 months	White British	Interview	3/0	No	Yes

		months					
Jack	Male	11 years, 11 months	White British	Interview	1/0	No	Yes
Lucy	Female	10 years, 7 months	White British	Interview	3/0	No	Yes
Isabelle	Female	7 years, 1 month	White British	Interview	7/0	No	No
Elisabeth	Female	7 years, 6 months	Bangladeshi	Interview	8/0	No	No
Ahmed	Male	5 years, 6 months	Black African	Interview	12	Yes	No
Lily	Female	12 years, 3 months	White British	Interview	0/5	No	Yes
Leah	Female	6 years, 11 months	White British	Interview	8/0	Yes	Yes
Mark	Male	8 years, 7 months	White British	Interview	1/1	No	Yes
Liam	Male	13 years, 11 months	White British	Interview	0/7	Yes	No
Brodie	Male	9 years, 6 months	White British	Interview	6/3	No	Yes

Danesh	Male	6 years, 9 months	Pakistani	Interview	1/0	No	No
Charlotte	Female	15years, 9months	White British	Interview	0/4	Yes	No

Topic guide interviews

Attending the dental hospital

- Going to the dental hospital, what was that for?
- Who told them?
- What was it like?

Experience of having caries

- Did they have any symptoms?
- Did it stop them doing anything?
- How did it make them feel?
- When symptoms stopped, why did it feel better?
- What do they think it looks like?

Treatment

- Have they had any treatment?
- What was it?
- What was it like?
- How did it make them feel?
- Did it make it better?

Describing it to a friend

- How would they describe caries to a friend
- How would they describe the treatment they had to a friend

Things other children have said

- Stops them eating on those teeth
- Stops them talking
- Stops them eating some foods
- Makes them eat slower

Anything else?

Figure 1. Interview topic guide.